

Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council.



A N N U A L

R E P O R T

.....
of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

.....
A N D S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R

.....
For the Year

1954
.....

Rhngyddiskryn Urban District Council.



A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year

1954



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MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1st January to 21st May, 1954

COUNCILLORS

Chairman L. Hyde, J.P.

Vice Chairman L. Cook.

WARDS

Penmaen

Pontllanfraith

D.J. Williams

L. Cook

Mrs. L.S. Hacker

F.R. Withers

T.W. Robinson

J.O. Davies

T.E. Morgan

B.E. Chicken

Mrs. G.M. Wiltshire

W.E. Jones

Mrs. E.G. Brown

Ynysddu

J. Adams

A.W. Games

A.P. Sedgewick

L. Hyde

A.B. Roberts

J.E. Moss

C.C. Thomas

MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

21st May to 31st December, 1954

COUNCILLORS

Chairman L. Cook, J.P.

Vice Chairman A.B. Roberts.

WARDS

Penmaen

D.J. Williams
Mrs. G.M. Wiltshire
T.E. Morgan
S.W. Lloyd
T.J. Duckham

Pontllanfraith

L. Cook
J.O. Davies
B.E. Chicken
F.R. Withers
W.E. Jones
Mrs. E.G. Brown

Ynysddu

J. Adams
A.W. Games
A.P. Sedgewick
L. Hyde
A.B. Roberts
J.E. Moss
C.C. Thomas

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Committee consists of all Members of the Council

Councillor J. Adams, Chairman

Day of Meeting - First Tuesday
in each Month

Medical Officer of Health - H.V.M. JONES,

M.B. (London), D.P.H. (Liverpool).

Sanitary Inspector

and Shops Inspector - J.LLOYD JONES, M.R.S.H. M.S.I.A.

MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ---

Area of District	-	-	5415 acres.
Rateable Value, April 1st, 1954	-	-	£58,589
Product of 1d. Rate, 1953/1954	-	-	£209. 5. 3d.
Population (Estimated Mid 1953)	-	-	14,810
Population (Estimated Mid 1954)	-	-	15,180
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 1953		-	19.5
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 1954		-	18.9
Live Births, 1953	-	-	289
Live Births, 1954	-	-	288
Number of Deaths, 1953	-	-	156
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population		-	10.53
Number of Deaths, 1954	-	-	150
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population		-	9.88
Infant Mortality Rate, 1953	-	-	34.6
Infant Mortality Rate, 1954	-	-	41.5

MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

R E P O R T

Of the Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Council
of Mynyddislwyn for the year ending December, 31st, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members
of Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for
the year 1954.

Showing the Comparisons of the Vital
Statistics of Mynyddislwyn Urban District
and the County of Monmouthshire.

	The County of Monmouthshire	Mynyddislwyn Urban District
Live Birth Rate 1953.	16.79	19.5
Live Birth Rate 1954.	16.26	18.9
Still Birth Rate 1953.	0.47	0.48
Still Birth Rate 1954.	0.47	0.32
Death Rate 1953.	11.58	10.53
Death Rate 1954.	11.61	9.88
Infantile Mortality Rate 1953.	32.63	34.6
Infantile Mortality Rate 1954.	39.67	~~24.8~~ 41.5

B I R T H S

The total number of births registered locally during 1954 as belonging to the district was 104, of which 61 were males and 43 females.

The number of births registered outside the District was 184, (males 96, females 88).

The Registrar General's return of births is 288. Of this number, 157 were males and 131 females.

The number of legitimate births was 154 males and 130 females.

The total number of illegitimate births from the Registrar General's return is 4 (3 males and 1 female).

The number of births during the year 1954 is 1 less than was recorded for 1953.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 41.5

Causes of Death.

TABLE 1.

Causes of Death. ALL CAUSES		M 94	F 56
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory		3	1
2. Tuberculosis, other		--	--
3. Syphilitic disease		--	--
4. Diphtheria		--	--
5. Whooping Cough		--	--
6. Meningococcal infections		--	--
7. Acute Poliomyelitis		--	--
8. Measles		--	--
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases		1	--
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach		3	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		1	--
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		--	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		--	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		14	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia		--	--
16. Diabetes		2	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system		12	8
18. Coronary disease, angina		12	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease		2	2
20. Other heart disease		13	18
21. Other circulatory disease		2	--
22. Influenza		--	--
23. Pneumonia		2	3
24. Bronchitis		4	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system		1	--
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		--	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis		1	--
29. Hyperplasia of prostate		1	--
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		--	--
31. Congenital malformations		4	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases		8	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents		3	--
34. Suicides		--	--
35. Homicides and operations of war		--	--
36. All other Accidents		4	--
Deaths in infants under 1 year of age:		9	3
Legitimate		9	3
Illegitimate		--	--
TOTAL BIRTHS		157	131
Legitimate		154	130
Illegitimate		3	1
STILL BIRTHS	TOTAL	3	2
Legitimate		3	2
Illegitimate		--	--

Estimated population 1954 for birth and death rates, 15,180

TABLE 11

Showing the number of births registered in the Mynyddislwyn Urban Area during 1954 according to sex, month, quarter of occurrence, together with inward transferable births.

Month	Male	Female	Total	Quarterly Births
January ...	3	5	8	24
February ...	6	5	11	
March ...	4	1	5	
April ...	8	2	10	
May ...	9	3	12	32
June ...	5	5	10	
July ...	8	4	12	
August ...	4	5	9	
September ..	4	7	11	32
October ...	4	1	5	
November ...	3	2	5	
December ...	3	3	6	
Total	61	43	104	104
Inward Transferable Births	96	88	184	
Grand Total for 1954	157	131	288	

TABLE 111

Showing the infant deaths (i.e. deaths in infants under 1 year of age) occurring in this district during 1954, by cause and in age groups.

Cause of Death.	0 to 4 weeks.	4 weeks to one year.
All causes	9	4
Measles	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Influenza	-	-
Cerebral Spinal Fever	-	-
Cancer (Malignant Disease) ...	-	-
Syphilis	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-
Bronchitis	1	-
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	2
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	-	-
Diarrhoea, Gastritis, & Enteritis	-	2
Congenital Malformations	1	-
Premature Births	2	-
Violence	-	-
Anencephaly	2	-
Pulmonary Atelectasis	2	-
Other Causes	-	-

TABLE 1V

Analysis of Infectious Diseases in this District during 1954 Showing Age/Sex distribution of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified in the District in 1954 also showing Admission of same to Hospital.

Disease	Under 1 Year		1-		2-		3-		4-		5-		10-		15-		20-		35-		45-		65 years and Upwards		All Ages		Total		Admitted to Hospital	
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	7	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	9	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	4	3	3	3	4	1	3	5	3	8	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Putrereal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

POST - MORTEMS

During the year there were 18 post-mortems held in the Area of which 8 were post-mortems without inquest.

The circumstances of the deaths are analysed and are as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
Broncho-Pneumonia	3	-	3
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	1	-	1
Carcinoma	2	-	2
Thrombosis	4	-	4
Congenital abnormalities	1	-	1
Heart Diseases	6	1	7
Total	17	1 =	18

TABLE V

Showing Monthly notification of Tuberculosis (all forms)
for the year 1954.

Month	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
January	1	-	-	-	1
February	4	-	-	-	4
March	4	-	-	-	4
April	-	-	-	1	1
May	1	1	1	-	3
June	-	-	-	-	-
July	1	-	-	-	1
August	2	1	-	-	3
September	1	1	-	-	2
October	2	-	-	-	2
November	1	1	-	-	2
December	-	-	-	-	-
	17	4	1	1	23

TABLE VI

Year	Yearly Notification of Tuberculosis				Total Yearly Cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Deaths from Tuberculosis				Total Yearly Deaths from Tuberculosis
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1945	8	4	-	7	19	1	3	-	1	5
1946	7	13	3	3	26	4	7	-	-	11
1947	5	8	1	-	14	4	2	1	-	7
1948	11	11	2	2	26	2	1	1	-	4
1949	13	3	2	-	18	1	3	-	-	4
1950	4	8	1	-	13	5	1	-	-	6
1951	10	11	-	1	22	4	2	-	-	6
1952	7	9	1	-	17	5	-	-	1	6
1953	3	12	1	3	19	-	-	5	-	5
1954	15	4	3	1	23	5	-	-	-	5

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population.

Number of children at 31st. December who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date, i.e., at any time since 1st. January, 1940:

Age at date of final injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B).

	Under 1 Yr.	1 year.	2 years.	3 years.	4 years.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	Total.
--	----------------	---------	----------	----------	----------	----------	------------	--------

A. Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the Authority's area (including temporary residents) during the year 1954.

24	179	64	3	3	52	-	325
----	-----	----	---	---	----	---	-----

B. Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection (i.e. subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age).

--	---	--	--	1	154	-	155
----	-----	----	----	---	-----	---	-----

Public Swimming Baths

Extensive facilities are provided for sunbathing and games and for juvenile instruction in swimming. The schools made every use of the latter facility during the past year. The total number of attendances of pupils who received such instruction was 4,585 and a large number acquired a Certificate of Proficiency.

The total number of bathers and spectators were as follows:

Bathers (adults)	1351
Bathers (juvenile) including school classes	11953
Spectators (adults)	941
Spectators (juvenile)	891

In conclusion I wish to thank the Sanitary Inspector and
Officers of all Departments of the Council for their willing
co-operation during the year.

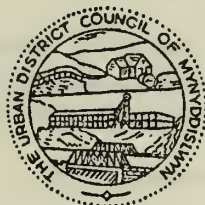
I am,

Your obedient servant,

H.V.M. JONES,

Medical Officer of Health.

Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council.



.....

Sanitary Inspector's

R E P O R T

for the year

1 9 5 4

.....

To the Chairman and Members of the Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year ending
December 31st. 1954.

F O O D S

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 28 retailers of milk in the area.

Licenses issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk Regulations 1949, and Milk (Special Designations) Raw Milk Regulations 1949 are as follows:

Dealers licenced to sell pasteurised milk	-	18
Dealers licenced to sell tuberculin tested milk	-	14
Dealers licenced to sell sterilised milk	-	16
Supplementary licenses to retailers outside the area to sell designated milk in the area	-	20

10 Samples of designated milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these 2 were below standard. The dairy concerned, which is outside this area, and also the County Authorities were notified and subsequent examination of the milk from these premises showed a satisfactory improvement.

The number of inspections of dairy premises is 83.

ICE CREAM.

Ice-cream is a much safer food than it was in pre-war days. Most of it is produced in ideal conditions in factories in which there is maintained a very high standard of hygiene. It is delivered to the shops in cartons, and stored at the correct temperature in refrigerators until it is sold to the consumer. Much of it is prepacked, and this of course reduces the risk of contamination to a minimum. 12 samples were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination, of which 11 were satisfactory. Special attention was given to the premises from which the bad sample was taken.

There are 25 retailers of ice-cream on the register.

Number of premises registered during the year	-	4
Number of premises registered	-	25
Number of registered persons producing	-	3
Number of inspections of premises and vehicles	-	53

OTHER FOODS.

Meat, fish and fruit shops are regularly visited, and the food exposed for sale or stored is examined.

Pork butchers' premises, where sausage meat and small goods are prepared, receive great and constant attention.

Bakehouses are regularly inspected, and the sanitary conditions are noted and dealt with as required.

There were no cases of food-poisoning notified during the year.

The Sale of Food and Drugs Act is administered by the Monmouthshire County Council.

MEAT INSPECTION.

There is at present one licensed private slaughterhouse in the area. With the exception of these premises, nearly all the meat obtained in the area is purchased from slaughterhouses in Maesycwmmmer, Newport, and Abergavenny, at all of which there is maintained an adequate inspection staff. At Maesycwmmmer the salary of the full-time meat inspector is by agreement apportioned between the councils of Bedwellty, Gelligaer, Bedwas & Machen, and Mynyddislwyn.

The following is a summary of the animals killed and the amount of meat condemned in the Maesycwmmmer Slaughterhouse.

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
2956	563	22982	6241

This gives a total weight of approximately 1112 tons.

The total weight of meat and offal condemned was approximately 15 tons 13 cwt.

Food & Drugs Act - Sampling.

My acknowledgement is due to Mr. A.W. Prosser, Chief Weights & Measures Inspector for the County, in supplying me with the following information of samples of food and drink taken for examination under the Foods & Drugs Acts in this area.

During the year 87 samples were taken, consisting of 58 milks; 24 other foods; and 5 of ice-cream.

The Public Analyst certified all these samples with the exception of 1 ice-cream to be up to the standards required.

The sample of ice-cream was found to be deficient in fat. Legal proceedings were instituted against the trader who was convicted, and fined £3 with £2 2s. costs.

Food Inspection.

The following show the variety of Food Stuffs condemned:-

Cheese	.....	17 lbs.
Corned Beef	.....	8 lbs.
Bacon	.....	8 lbs.
Luncheon Meat	.....	8 lbs.

TINNED GOODS.

Stewed Steak	.....	9 tins.
Rabbit	.....	11 tins.
Condensed Milk	.....	7 tins.
Fish	.....	2 tins.
Peas & Beans	.....	10 tins.
Plums	.....	25 tins.
Tomatoes	.....	66 tins.
Other Fruit	.....	26 tins.
Meat	.....	3 tins.

HOUSING 1954.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-	
Total	65
1. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:-	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	119
2. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.	
Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	--
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	--
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners	--
(b) By local authority in default of owners	--
Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	6
(2) No of houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made under Section 10. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953.....	3
Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners	6
(b) By local authority in default of owners	--

Housing.

SHOWING THE NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL AS AT 31/12/54.

	Temp Pre-fabs	Perm Pre-fabs	Tradition- al (includ- ing requi- sitioned property)	Total
*No.of houses owned by Local Authority on 31/12/54 (including Flats)	99	330	726	1155
No.of houses in course of erection on 31/12/54	--	---	24	24
No.of houses for which sanction had been given, but which had not been commenced on 31/12/54	--	---	58	58
* By Local Authority	--	---	64	64
By Private Enterprise	--	---	1	1
Total	--	---	65	65

* Showing the number of Houses owned by Mynyddislwyn Urban District
Council as at 31/12/54

* Showing the number of Houses erected by the Mynyddislwyn Urban
District Council and by Private Enterprise during 1954.

Slum Clearance.

Since the war much attention has been drawn to the ever increasing number of houses which are deteriorating into slums. The factors which are mainly responsible are the inevitable neglect during the war years; the high cost of repairs as compared with fixed rentals; the urgent demand for new houses which make it difficult for local authorities to allocate houses for slum clearance. To deal with this problem the Government introduced the Housing Repairs & Rents Act 1954. Three of its main provisions are that it gives greater facilities for the obtaining of improvement grants; provides for the increase of house-rents under certain conditions; and imposes certain obligations on local authorities for dealing with slum clearance. At this point I would like to try to explain what the word "slum" means, because it is open to such wide interpretation, and is used very loosely. Its origin is obscure, but it meant originally a thickly populated area where the houses and conditions of life were of a squalid and wretched character. It may be said today that this is no longer the case, but that it is a technical term used in a very loose fashion to denote a collection of unsatisfactory houses. The policy of the Government as outlined in the Act is that deterioration of existing houses should be checked, and that sub-standard and unsatisfactory houses which cannot be repaired and modernised at anything like reasonable cost should be demolished. The Government realizes that re-housing of the families concerned will take many years to accomplish, and that in the interim period, if necessary, some effort should be made to patch up these houses temporarily. It is for those reasons that there are provisions in the Act which will give to Local Authorities the power to acquire certain houses in Clearance Areas, and individual unfit houses, and to spend a limited amount of money on them to make them more tolerable pending demolition. This is known as the technique of "deferred demolition". Every Local Authority was asked to make a survey of all the houses in its area which appeared to be of a poor standard, and to submit proposals as to how they were to be dealt with. If the resources of the local authority were not sufficient to replace all these houses in five years, then the process of acquiring and patching up the remainder was advised.

As a result of my survey I was of the opinion that it was not necessary for this Council to become "slum landlords". Virtually this authority has no slum problem. Compared with the big industrial towns, this area is in a very fortunate position. Much of the area is of a semi-rural character, and some, though not all, of the cottages built originally to house the agricultural worker still make good healthy homes despite the fact that they are lacking in modern amenities.

The number of unfit houses was found to be 61, and these are expected to be dealt with by closure or demolition in five years. I may say that this can be considered as a continuance of this Council's wise policy of improving the standard of housing by a process of gradually eliminating the sub-standard properties. It was proposed that a further 49 houses which I can best describe as border-line cases, and which will probably be unfit in five years time unless their deterioration is checked, should be the subject of a further five years programme. These proposals were submitted to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government, and approved. Good progress has already been made on the above scheme. At the end of the year under review, twelve of the 61 unfit houses had already been dealt with or were in process of being dealt with.

Factory Act, 1937.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

Premises	Number on the Register	Number of		Occupier Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 enforced by Local Authority	24	30	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies	9	33	-	-
(a) Subject to the L/A's transfer of Enforcement Order 1938				
(b) Others	--	--	-	-
(3) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers premises)..				
Total ...	33	63	-	-

2. - DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	Number of Defects				
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	-	-	-
Want of ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Want of drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary (Insufficient	1	1	1	-	-
accommodation (unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	6	6	1	-	-

RODENT CONTROL.

REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st. MARCH, 1954.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (inc. Business Premises.	Total of Cols 1,2,3.	Agricultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	4	4075	172	4251	63
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of: (a) Notification	-	71	---	71	--
(b) Survey under the Act	4	111	9	124	--
(c) Otherwise; e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose....	-	7	1	8	--
III. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 11) which were found to be infested by:					
a. Rats. (Major)	-	---	---	---	--
(Minor)	4	102	8	114	--
b. Mice (Major)	-	---	1	1	--
(Minor)	-	51	2	53	--
IV. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 111 treated by the L.A.) (Figures should <u>NOT</u> exceed those given at Section 111).	4	154	8	166	--
V. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:-					
(a) Treatment	-	---	---	---	--
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	---	---	---	--
VI. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act.	-	---	---	---	--
VII. Legal proceedings	-	---	---	---	--
VIII. Number of "Block" Control schemes carried out.....	-	---	---	---	--

In conclusion I wish to thank
officers of all departments of the Council
for their willing co-operation during the
year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J.LLOYD JONES.

Sanitary Inspector
& Shops Inspector.

